

REMARKS

The Office Action has been carefully reviewed. Claims 7, 9, and 12 are allowed and claims 10 and 11 are only objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 1, 3, 7, 9 and 12 presently appear in this application and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 and 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 3 are now amended to incorporate the features of claims 10 and 11, respectively, and recite specific derivatives of LAG-3 that maintain the ability to bind to MHC Class II molecules which bind LAG-3, as fully supported on pages 5-6 of the present specification. Accordingly, claims 10 and 11 that were only objected to are cancelled in favor of incorporating their allowable subject matter into claims 1 and 3. This is effectively the same as rewriting claims 10 and 11 that are objected to in independent form to include all the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. The amendment to the claims do not raise any new issues or incorporate any new

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matter into the claim, and therefore entry of this amendment is in order.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. §112 and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance are earnestly urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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